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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 20 November 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Cape Verde to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and Sao Tome and Principe I would like to draw your attention to the joint statement annexed hereto, issued by the said countries on the prevailing situation in East Timor, in the light of the recent incident that victimized many innocent civilians in that territory.

I request that this letter and the joint statement be published as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 68, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) José Luis JESUS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Cape Verde to the United Nations

ANNEX

Joint statement issued by the Permanent Representatives of the People's Republic of Angola, the Republic of Cape Verde, the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, the Republic of Mozambique and the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe to the United Nations on 18 November 1991

On the 12th of the current month of November the world was shocked by the press report about a barbarian massacre perpetrated against the defenceless population of East Timor by the occupation forces of Indonesia.

In accordance with press accounts of different sources, confirmed by the Indonesian official press, this action of violence took place when the armed forces of Indonesia shot at a group of people of 1,000 East Timorese and foreigners who were paying their last respect, in the cemetery of Santa Cruz, to Sebastiao Rangel and Afonso Henriques, two young East Timorese who were also assassinated by Indonesian soldiers in an incident that took place earlier on the 28th of October last.

The tragic and unjustifiable result of this outrageous act of violence is translated into scores of dead and many wounded people. Such an incident is a challenge to our universal conscience on the untenable situation in which the East Timorese people found themselves and whose exercise of the sacred and inalienable right to self-determination as well as their fundamental human rights are being denied through the use of force and repression.

Deeply concerned by the above-mentioned situation, the Permanent Representatives of the People's Republic of Angola, the Republic of Cape Verde, the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, the Republic of Mozambique and the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome, acting on behalf of their respective Governments:

1. Repudiate and condemn most vehemently the massacre of 12 November perpetrated by the repressive forces of Indonesia in their unsuccessful attempt to silence the East Timorese people whose long-lasting resistance to oppression is a clear evidence of their attachment to freedom and of their indomitable willingness to exercise their fundamental and inalienable right to self-determination.

2. Call on the Indonesian Government to put an immediate end to the violence against the East Timorese population and cooperate with the United Nations in its efforts to promote a just and lasting solution for the question of East Timor, in conformity with the United Nations principles and relevant resolutions in the field of decolonization.

3. Invite the Human Rights Commission to take the necessary steps to undertake as soon as possible an inquiry into the facts with a view to establishing the responsibilities.

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4. Reaffirm their common position that East Timor is a question of decolonization and emphasize the United Nations responsibility in the creation of conditions and mechanisms to ensure to the East Timor people the free exercise of their right to self-determination and independence.

5. Request the United Nations Secretary-General to renew his efforts with a view to finding a peaceful solution to the conflict.

(Signed) Afonso VAN-DUNEM "MBINDA"
Permanent Representative of the
People's Republic of Angola to the
United Nations

(Signed) José Luis JESUS
Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Cape Verde to the
United Nations

(Signed) Boubacar TOURE
Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Guinea-Bissau to the
United Nations

(Signed) Pedro Comissario AFONSO
Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Mozambique to the
United Nations

(Signed) Joaquim Rafael BRANCO
Permanent Representative of the
Democratic Republic of Sao Tome
and Principe to the United Nations